

Gear Up! Early Emergent Level A 6-pack: Whiskers

Wright Group/McGraw-Hill

Copyright - 2004

ISBN - 1404513833

Edition - 1

Grade Level P1 - Kindergarten

Readability Level

Course / Content Reading

List Price: 34.6

Wholesale Price 25.949999999999999

The features of each book or program were developed by the publisher and do not reflect the opinion of the Kentucky State Review Team Kentucky State Textbook Commission or the Kentucky Department of Education.

Content Content: Six each of one fiction title. The Kindergarten guided reading program includes carefully leveled books specifically designed to help students learn and practice the skills appropriate for this stage of reading development.

Student Experiences Student Experiences: The book has been written to draw in even the reluctant readers using a compelling story and text features. By reading both fiction and nonfiction texts available in the Gear Up! Program, students build upon their background knowledge, functioning language level, motivation to read the text, ability to read a text fluently, develop vocabulary, and improve their understanding of text features and comprehension strategies.

Assessment

Organization Organization: At the Early Emergent level the books have simple language structures, repetitive sentences or phrase patterns, few lines of text on a page, strong illustration support and familiar vocabulary.

Resource Materials

Gratis Items to be provided and under what conditions N/A

Available Ancillary Materials

Research Data and Evidence of Effectiveness

Disclaimer: the research data and evidence of effectiveness was provided by the publisher and does not reflect the opinion of the State Review Team, the State Textbook Commission, or the Kentucky Department of Education.

Research Available YES - provide information below
See the Wright Group/McGraw-Hill website at
<http://www.wrightgroup.com/index.php/programsummary?isbn=0076034275&longCopy=Y> or contact your Account Manager, Stacy Carrier, at 859-749-0794.

Overall Strength and/or Weaknesses

Disclaimer: Comments on the strengths and/or weaknesses of each book, material or program were written by members of the State Textbook/Instructional Materials Review Team and reflect their opinions. They do not reflect the opinions of the State Textbook Commission nor the Kentucky Department of Education. In addition, the State Textbook/Instructional Materials Review Team completed each evaluation form during summer of 2005. In order to maintain the integrity of the review team's comments, editing was limited to spelling and punctuation.

Recommendations: This material was evaluated as part of the complete Gear Up set of guided reading materials. It is recommended that this program be included on the Kentucky State Textbook Adoption List.

Summary Form

I.	Technology Component Summary	1.000.00
	The DVD that is included in each Gear Up kit explains the guided reading program and can be used as a tutorial for teachers.	
	No evidence of technology component built into this program for students found.	
II.	Reading Content Summary	2
	This program provides developmentally appropriate reading skill development.	
III.	Writing Content Summary	1.44
	Good writing prompts given as extensions at the end of many reading lessons.	
	This is a guided reading program that focuses on reading development. The writing process is not taught in this program.	
IV.	Grammar and Spelling Content Summary	1.00
	Vocabulary skills are included in the lesson guides.	
	This program does not directly contain grammar and spelling strategies.	
V.	Listening /Speaking / Observing Content Summary	1.25
	Many opportunities included for students to listen, speak and observe during guided reading activities.	
VI.	Inquiry Content Summary	
	An inquiry component was not found in this guided reading program.	
VII.	Technology Content Summary	
	A DVD is included in each kit as a tutorial for teachers to use to learn about guided reading and how to use the Gear Up program.	
	No student technology was available in this program. There were no references found in the lesson guides to technology connections.	
VIII.	Audience: Teacher Materials Content Summary	1.70
	The teacher materials are easy to follow and coordinate with the student texts.	
	Assessment is completed through teacher observation. No technology component included to access computerized comprehension or phonics tests.	
IX.	Audience : Student Materials Content Summary	1.57
	The student texts are brightly colored and motivational.	
	This is a guided reading program. Direct writing instruction was not included in this program -- only writing prompts.	
X.	Format Content Summary	1.86
	Well organized and easy to read student texts and teacher materials.	
XI.	Ancillary Materials Content Summary	1.67
	Lesson guides coordinate very well with the student texts. Blackline master is at the end of each lesson guide instead of in a separate book.	

Lacks online resource component.

READING CONTENT

Good selection of different genres.

Reflective questioning is included in each lesson plan.

Questioning suggestions address this.

Lesson plans offer suggestions of activities to develop phonological awareness.

Lesson plans offer suggestions for phonics activities, high frequency words, suffices, etc.

Lesson plans offer suggestions for extensive vocabulary study.

Lesson plans offer suggestions for a variety of comprehension questioning activities.

Good selection of different genres.

Developmentally appropriate materials.

WRITING CONTENT

Different types of writing prompts are used at the end of many guided reading activities in an attempt to make meaningful connections from the reading experience to the writing experience.

Media technology not included.

Emphasis is on oral and written language.

GRAMMAR AND SPELLING

THIS IS A GUIDED READING PROGRAM THAT DOES NOT INCLUDE SPECIFIC GRAMMAR INSTRUCTION.

LISTENING / SPEAKING / OBSERVING

NO DIRECT INQUIRY SKILLS TAUGHT OR INQUIRY ACTIVITIES LISTED AT THE PRIMARY LEVEL. THERE ARE CONNECTIONS MADE BETWEEN INFORMATION LEARNED FROM READING THE NONFICTION TEXTS TO WRITING AND SHARING ACTIVITIES.

WRITING RESPONSES AFTER READING STORIES ALLOW STUDENTS OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE WRITING WITH PEERS. MANY OPPORTUNITIES IN THIS PROGRAM FOR LISTENING, SPEAKING AND OBSERVING.

INQUIRY

INQUIRY SKILLS ARE NOT TAUGHT AND INQUIRY TASKS ARE NOT DISCUSSED IN THIS GUIDED READING PROGRAM AT THE PRIMARY LEVEL.

TECHNOLOGY CONTENT

THE DVD INCLUDED IN THIS KIT IS FOR TEACHER USE. THERE IS NO STUDENT TECHNOLOGY COMPONENT INCLUDED IN THIS KIT.

THE DVD INCLUDED IN THIS KIT IS FOR TEACHER USE ONLY.

THERE IS NO TECHNOLOGY COMPONENT FOR STUDENT USE.

AUDIENCE: TEACHER MATERIALS

ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES ARE INCLUDED, BUT THEY DO NOT RESEMBLE STATE-LIKE ASSESSMENT.

A GUIDED READING PROGRAM OVERVIEW IS INCLUDED IN EACH READING KIT.

LIMITED EVIDENCE AT THIS LEVEL.

THE ONLY ONLINE TEACHER RESOURCE FOUND WAS A PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS TEACHERS TO GROUP BOOKS IN THE GEAR UP PROGRAM ACCORDING TO THEMES AND READING LEVELS.

THIS IS A GUIDED READING SET AND IS NOT CONSIDERED TO BE A COMPLETE LANGUAGE ARTS PROGRAM.

AUDIENCE: STUDENT MATERIALS

HANDWRITING INSTRUCTION NOT INCLUDED IN THIS GUIDED READING PROGRAM.

ACADEMIC GROWTH IS PROVIDED THROUGH THE STAGES OF READING DEVELOPMENT. WRITING SKILLS ARE NOT TAUGHT DIRECTLY IN THIS PROGRAM. OPPORTUNITIES ARE INCLUDED FOR STUDENTS TO WRITE TO DEMONSTRATE LEARNING AND FOR AUTHENTIC PURPOSES THROUGH THE EXTENDED WRITING PROMPTS.

FORMAT

ANCILLARY MATERIALS

NO INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY FOUND. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ARE SUGGESTED IN LESSON GUIDES, BUT ARE NOT PROVIDED.